

# The Keen Observer

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## Just in Time For Christmas

As the gift buying season approaches, the world is accosted by fast talking salesman and crowded malls. There is a draw to the quiet comfort of the internet, but a fear that the items requested will not be shipped in time sends people back to the crowded streets. There is a desire to move away from the mass producible products, and into unique pieces.



Puddle Bike Framed

\$115

This holiday season, please take the time to visit sites like Etsy.com to find original handmade items. They have everything from jewelry and clothing, to art and furniture. I have also put up the new pieces from this summers festivals on my Etsy. Ready to come home and adorn your walls.

## Holiday Portraits

We love them, we dread them, but no matter what, they come every year. The holidays provide us time to be with family while in the same moment trying to pull us away with the all of the ins and outs that come with the time crunch for the new year. November is a great time to take a moment and capture the family in a portrait. Please remember, if you are wanting portraits for holiday cards, to make your appointments before Thanksgiving.

## Snippets

- Visit [Cafepress.com](http://Cafepress.com) for great gift ideas.
- Looking for something unique? Look no further than [Etsy](http://Etsy). Check out the [Ardent](http://Ardent) store for an easy way to purchase my art online.
- Are you a solo professional or small business owner? Check out [Biznik](http://Biznik) for local networking connections.

***“If your pictures aren’t good enough, you’re not close enough.”***

***~Robert Capa***

## New Work and New Challenges

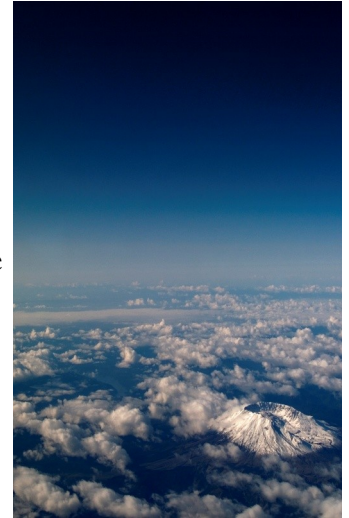


“Mt Rainier”

Coming soon to the website will be a series of photographs taken from airplanes. I started this venture when I took my first plane trip to Virginia in 2001. I was fascinated by how the world looked from so high up in the air. The images from

the first trip are not overly dynamic, but it was the beginning of a project. Since then, every plane trip I have tried to sit next to the window .

I have also started on a series featuring Mt. Rainier. My mother informed me that my grandmother would be disappointed in me because I did not have any photographs of the mountain that she loved so much. In other conversations I was informed that a picture of the mountain is a picture of the mountain. And while I am sure that might be correct, I have taken it on as a challenge.



“Mt. St. Helens”



Have a Happy and Safe  
Halloween!

## Spook Crisps

*Notes: If making ahead, store cool crisps airtight at room temperature.*

6 Flour Tortillas (I haven't tried it with Whole Wheat but I am sure it would work)  
1 cup grated parmesan cheese  
1 tablespoon chili powder  
1/3 cup melted butter or margarine

1. Use Halloween cookie cutters to cut tortillas into shapes such as ghosts, goblins, witches, and jack-o'-lanterns.
2. Lay the cutouts slightly apart on 2 nonstick baking sheets about 14 by 17 inches.
3. Mix cheese and chili powder.
4. Brush tortillas with butter. Sprinkle with cheese mixture.
5. Bake in a 350° oven until golden and crisp, about 15 minutes; if using 1 oven, switch pan positions halfway through baking.
6. Transfer crisps to racks. Serve warm or cool.

**Yield:** Makes about 48 (3- to 4-in. size) or 12 (6- to 8-in. size); 10 to 12 servings

# OCTOBER/NOVEMBER

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31 Halloween	1 Nov All-Saints
2	3	4 Election Day	5	6	7	8
9	10	11 Veterans Day	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27 Thanks- giving	28	29

## Let the Festivities Begin

- ◆ I know October is a busy month for my household, with three birthdays and Halloween to start off the Festivities of the winter months.. On that note I ask you to please remember that the holidays are about family, and it is family that we should hold closer than ever in these uncertain times.
- ◆ Please vote November 4th!



Special Offer

Make an appointment for Holiday Portraits before November 30th and receive \$10 off your session .



Promotional Code: APHoliday

### Family Portrait Appointment Request

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date \_\_\_\_\_  
 Location \_\_\_\_\_  
 Notes \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
 Qty. (by 1/2 hour) \_\_\_\_\_

Please Mail Request Form to Sarah McTernan  
 c/o Ardent Photography  
 6620 48th Street Ct W

Call 253-566-6175

Or 253-376-6141

E-mail requests to sarah@ardentphotography.com

- Family Portrait  
 Senior Portrait

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone \_\_\_\_\_

## Photography Where You Want It, How You Want It

6620 48th Street Court West  
 University Place, WA 98467

Office: 253-566-6175  
 Cellular: 253-376-6141  
 E-Mail: Sarah@ardentphotography.com





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[WWW.ARDENTPHOTOGRAPHY.COM](http://WWW.ARDENTPHOTOGRAPHY.COM)

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Making the everyday unique.

In 2004, I made the decision to create Ardent Photography; an on-site studio that would cater to individuals who wanted portraits that reflected their unique personality. I wanted to give people an opportunity to have quality portraits taken at affordable prices without the stuffy nature of a studio. I remember sitting through seemingly eternal evenings at portrait studios trying to get the "perfect family photo." Of course, by the time we got to the studio, someone had found a new stain or torn a shirt or fouled up the precisely done hair. Then we would get into the small room where the camera was, and be positioned as mannequins for the ideal portrait. The pictures were always "nice" but never an accurate representation of my family. I had the same experience when having my senior pictures taken years later. Most of the pictures I hated, because they were very fake and did not display my true self. Ardent is here to offer the opportunity to have portraits that capture the real you.

Beyond portraiture, I am an artist. When I first started shooting with those disposable cameras, I was taking mostly pictures of my friends. As the years went on I moved away from the mantra that I had heard so much in my youth, "A picture is no good if it does not have a person standing in it." I began taking photographs of the things in my life I thought were beautiful. Some of these pictures were still of people, but a greater amount were of the sky, trees and full ashtrays at local hangouts. With these images I began to hone my skill for lighting and set up. I would love to share my unique vision of the world with people and local businesses whether through stock images that I already have on hand or specific projects for businesses and individuals.

## Shooting Low-Light Photography

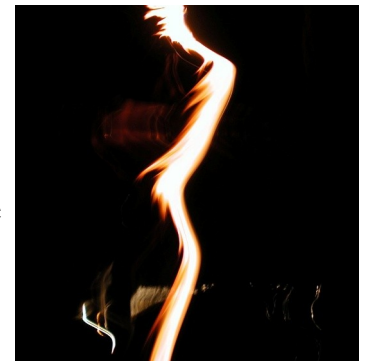
As the days become shorter, and the sun vanishes into the stuff of myth and legends, time for shooting interesting photographs shrinks to its tiniest size of the year. That is, unless you venture into the world of low-light photography. In this digital age, it can be a very dangerous location, unless you know a few simple tips.

- Having a good, sturdy tripod is a necessity
- Use a high ISO to capture more light but be warned, depending on the camera the noise created at higher ISOs can be very distracting.
- Use a higher F-stop for larger depth of field.
- Experiment and have fun.

The great thing with digital, as we all know, is that you can preview your photographs before you leave your shooting site. If the image is not what you want, change the settings and try again.

Happy Shooting,

Sarah McTernen



*Moving fire, taken in al-  
most  
complete darkness.*